

MINES AND MINING

IDAHO'S BIG GOLD STRIKE

Days of Buffalo Hump Excitement Being Repeated in the Central Idaho Rush.

"A mining boom having all the trimmings and variations that characterized the first rushes to Thunder Mountain and Buffalo Hump, but seemingly, with a stronger foundation to hold out, is on from Orogrande to the Four Mile country near the Clearwater River, fourteen miles from Orogrande, where John Howard and John Lackey have exposed a ledge fourteen feet wide of ore that shows gold to the naked eye. The ledge is exposed at fifty feet depth, is firm the entire width and neither of the walls had been found at last report," says the Elk City Mining News.

"The first news of the strike reaching Elk City came by way of Newsome. Wednesday the news press is held for what is without doubt the most important news item this paper has published in the two years the present publisher has had charge.

"Mining News forms were closed at noon Thursday, so far as the general run of news is concerned, but the almost constant ringing of the telephone and excited prospectors informing us of the big strike got the news instinct to working again and the press is held for what is without doubt the most important news item this paper has published in the two years the present publisher has had charge.

"By telephone the information is given that all of the men in Orogrande who are foot loose are striking out for the new discovery, and a number have quit the employ of companies to go. The trail over the summit is still blocked with snow, so that those who have after fortune in the new El Dorado are trudging along the fourteen-mile trail with packs on their backs and bucking the snow. The days of Buffalo Hump excitement are recalled.

"Excitement spread to Elk City miners and prospectors Thursday night, and from indications a number will obey the hunch to 'git up and git,' but it is likely the Elk City contingent will go in by way of Newsome.

Mr. Leach Tells About It.

"Mr. Leach, who gave out the first authentic report on the strike, is a mining man from Colorado, and he has associated with him in all the locations he makes in central Idaho Mr. Burbridge of the Bunker Hill & Sullivan mine, in the Coeur d'Alene district. Mr. Leach has several good properties of his own in the Four Mile country, but as soon as the Howard-Lackey strike was made Mr. Leach took an extensive location.

"This is the biggest gold strike ever found in any part of the Bitter Root range," said Mr. Leach, "and neither of the walls has been found yet. They don't do any panning or looking at the rock with a glass; they break it and look at it with the naked eye. They have no waste dump. I don't believe there is anything but the Buster that can beat it. I will take off my hat to this property and say you are the best I have ever seen. I have seen a few in my time. I am going to locate all the claims I can. I have been to a few mining boom camps, but I have never before the boom always after it. I think now I am on the ground floor. I will locate anything and everything. When the people realize the showing this property has, and this part of the district has, there will be a boom."

BINGHAM MINES COMPANY SCHEME DECLARED A GO

James P. Graves, president of the Bingham Mines company, issues the following statement:

"The holders of over 60,000 shares of the Bingham Consolidated Mining & Smelting company have deposited their shares with the Federal Trust company under the terms of the offer of the Bingham Mines company, and the plan has accordingly become operative.

"The remaining stockholders have been given until April 20 to come under the plan. No further extension of the offer upon the original terms will be made."

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UTAH-APEX LETS BIG CONTRACT

Parvane Tunnel to Explore New Territory—Adkinson Quits the New England.

Bingham, April 26.—A contract to drive the Parvane tunnel along its general westerly direction under the Apex hill was let the early part of this week. Negotiations with eastern officials have been under way for some time to continue this work, but nothing of a definite nature was done until recently. This work is considered by all interested in the mining industry in camp as being of more than ordinary significance, as it will undoubtedly disclose just what the bodies there are under this much discussed Apex hill.

The Yampa and Utah Consolidated companies are especially interested in this work, as their properties adjoin that of the Utah-Apex. The Utah-Apex company has not as yet explored its territory at depth, and as both the adjoining properties have their larger bodies at depth, the results of the driving of the Parvane tunnel will be watched eagerly. The tunnel at present is in 2,600 feet and it is the intention, it is said, to drive it the same distance to the north and west. It will also be an excellent outlet for the ores of the Utah-Apex property and will do away with the expense of transporting the ore over the tram and also the hoisting expense will be done away with.

After an association of five and one-half years with the New England Mining company, Superintendent Henry M. Adkinson has tendered his resignation to Managing Director E. E. Abernethy of Boston, to take effect on May 1. To the many friends of Mr. Adkinson his resignation comes as a great surprise, as he is one of the best known and most liked mine superintendents in camp. His treatment of the men in his employ has been of the very best, and they are unanimous in declaring that they will lose a good friend when the genial superintendent leaves. He will leave shortly after the 1st of May, where he will enter the employ of A. E. Reynolds, one of the oldest and most prominent mine owners in Colorado. There has been no successor named for the position and it is not likely there will be until Mr. Abernethy reaches here from Boston the first part of May.

RICHES OF WILD HORSE.

Much Development Work Going on and Many Strikes Are Made.

(Special Correspondence.)

Mazuma, Nev., April 25.—A visit to Wild Horse canyon firmly convinces one that the riches of the Seven Troughs district is by no means confined to the Seven Troughs canyon, and that some of the best mines are as yet unknown. Wherever, in the entire length of the canyon, a pick has been struck in the ground the prospect has been rewarded for his efforts and goaded on to fresh exertions.

Beginning at the north end of the canyon is the Hawkeye Mining company, which has been carrying on extensive workings since last fall. Manager Wiley states that the results of his efforts so far have been so gratifying to his California backers that already sufficient money has been placed in the treasury of the company to insure exhaustive development. Senator Cartwright of Fresno recently paid a visit to the district and was so highly pleased with this property that he is endeavoring now to procure adjacent territory. The shaft on the Hawkeye ground has been driven 130 feet, and a vein which was opened on the surface, and it is the intention of the company to continue the shaft to the 100-foot level. Milling ore has been encountered practically the entire depth of the shaft and the completion of the shaft is being awaited with much interest by the company.

The next work of importance in the canyon is that of the North Pole company. Mr. Bogart, the manager of the company, has sunk a working shaft to a depth of 155 feet, where water was encountered to such an extent as to necessitate the discontinuance of sinking until machinery is installed. In the meantime the work of cross-cutting has been started. Sulphides appeared comparatively near the surface and these have increased in value with the depth. A piece of rock picked at random from the dump, when roasted, panned a string of gold such as heretofore has been expected only in the Mazuma hills or Fairview.

Adjoining the North Pole on the south is the B. & J. group, owned by Bogart & McGivney. On this property a tunnel has been run 140 feet and at this writing a vein has just been cut in the face of the tunnel that varies in width from three to six feet and pans free gold across its entire width. Joining this property and on the same vein is the Wild Bull, owned by Smoot & Harschberger. The strike on this property made recently was one of the sensations of the camp. A vein was opened on the surface that assayed several thousands of dollars per ton. A shaft has been sunk to a depth of eighty feet on the vein and the sensational values have not decreased. On account of water the shaft will not be continued until a pump is placed on the ground.

The latest strike in the canyon has just been made by Barrett & Barry on their property, the Golden Horse shoe. This claim adjoins the Wild Bull on the east, the Tomboy on the west, and is directly in the course of the Badger vein. Considerable trenching has been done on the ground and at almost any place where the ledge has been uncovered free gold specimens can be found.

Messrs. Barrett & Barry have started a tunnel and also a shaft on the ground and will lose no time in developing their property.

Taken all in all, the properties in the canyon are showing up wonderfully, and as this fact is becoming known applications for leases are being received daily by the owners of properties.

Union Assay Office. M. S. Hanauer. J. V. Sadler. 162 So. West Temple. P. O. Box 1446.

PRODUCTION OF COPPER METAL

No Effort Being Made to Crowd the Market—Ely Won't Hurt This Year.

There is no incentive for efforts with a view to an increased copper output this year, while in practically all of the older districts expenditures are confined to those having a direct bearing on production. Furthermore, there are a number of mines flying distress signals, due to the low price of the metal, which is maintained for any considerable period, will necessitate their closing down, says Hayden, Stone & Co.'s market letter.

Michigan will show but a very small increase, as but four mines, the Copper Range, Mohawk, Osceola and Ahmeek, are capable of supplying an enlarged rock tonnage. The Calumet & Hecla is gradually increasing its shipments from the Osceola vein, but with a corresponding reduction from the standpoint of production in its tonnage forwarded from the conglomerate openings, which are being rather conserved.

There is no longer any crying need for additional smelter or concentrator capacity in the Butte district, where the energies are bent solely on the actual production of metal. In the Bingham camp, the Utah Copper, Utah Consolidated and Yampa are about the only creditable factors. The Boston Consolidated is confronted with difficulties which will be gradually overcome, but the indications are that the full capacity of its concentrator will be supplied for a small portion of the current year.

Nor will the equilibrium of the metal market be disturbed by production from the Ely district of Nevada this year. The first unit of the Steptoe concentrator will go into commission in May, and the whole plant, with an aggregate capacity of 4,000 tons daily, should be in operation by the middle of July. The smelter should also be started in that month, and with that the plant will be a finished proposition; that is, the Ely plant will be producing to its full capacity only during the last five or six months of the year, and as it takes some three months to refine and market the product, copper from this source will not be ready for consumption until well into next fall.

We consider that it is greatly to the credit of those behind the principal Ely companies that delayed shipments of materials, scarcity of labor and financial depression have made no difference with them. They have, and we maintain firmly our opinion that eventually Ely will be one of the largest and most successful copper producing centers in that country. But the point that we would bring out is—that it is most improbable that enough copper will be forthcoming from Ely during this period of depression to retard recovery or appreciably affect the price of the metal.

The position of the metal market is also reflected in the policy being pursued in Arizona and Mexico. Very little is being done in the way of prospecting and a normal output is being mined only by companies favored in the matter of operating costs.

There are a number of good mines which are showing out meagre earnings on the present metal market, but in the end the companies' interests are better served by continuing operations than by closing down, as the mine, surface plant, etc., are kept in good working condition.

In such instances, however, in which developments of a number of years and the expenditure of heavy sums have failed to disclose the commercial values, the wisdom of maintaining production at the expense of the working capital is open to question.

TANTAMOUNT AND KING READY TO CUT LOOSE

Park City, April 25.—The Tantamount Mining company this week organized, with Park City as its home office and principal place of business, and promises to be a considerable factor in the development of the Snake Creek mining district. The company is incorporated for 500,000 shares, at the par value of 25 cents each, and owns five claims adjoining the Mountain Lake property on the east. In addition to two known ledges which traverse the property, its surface bears a very large amount of excellent timber, enough to supply a large mine with timber for all purposes for many years, which, together with a fine water power on the claims, indicates that the property can be worked at a very low cost. Late assays from a surface tunnel on one of these claims showed 19.6 per cent copper, 9 ounces silver and \$5.60 in gold. Work will be commenced on the property within thirty days, and it is the intention of the management to have the ground surveyed for patent this season.

At the Silver King Consolidated property steam was gotten up on Wednesday, and the cage has made regular trips up and down the shaft since that time. General Manager Solon Spiro was in camp yesterday on business connected with this mine, and after he had conferred for several hours with Superintendent Hugh McDonald the latter stated that he would have work for a good sized force of men about May 1.

NO CONTEST AT COMING MEETING OF U. S. COMPANY

The call for the annual meeting of the United States Smelting company, and notice that six new directors will be added to the board, mean that there will be no contest at the annual meeting to be held in Portland, May 29, says the Boston News Bureau.

This agreement was arrived at at a meeting of the full board of directors in Boston held recently. The directors will be no contest is also shown by the statement that all stock or proxies held or controlled by the directors, including R. D. Evans, will be voted in favor of the program outlined in the notice to stockholders.

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TINTIC MINING NOTES.

Big Compressors for Knight Mines—Bullock "Strike" a Fluke.

(Eureka Reporter.) A drift is being run to the south from the 200-foot level of the Big Hill property in the eastern part of Tintic. This drift is now in a distance of ninety feet and the ledge will be cut within the next eighty feet. William Olson of Provo has charge of the property.

Superintendent John Barrang of the Tetro states that two shifts have now been put to work and that everything is once more in good condition at the mine. The work has been taken up where it was left off last fall and the Tetro promises to be heard from within the next few months.

The reopening of the Grand Central mine also means the reopening of the Victoria, which is developed through the former. When the Grand Central resumes the shipment of ore on the 15th of next month the Victoria will likewise be in line and dividends will again be the order of the day at both properties.

John Bestmeyer was in town from Provo on Tuesday night. Mr. Bestmeyer closed a deal on Tuesday whereby he became the owner of the machinery at the Old Buckeye property at Diamond. The machinery will be moved to the eastern part of the district and used in the development of the August group of claims.

Two large compressors arrived this week and will be installed at the old Colorado hole. It will require two electric motors of an aggregate capacity of 300 horsepower to operate the new compressors, which will furnish air for the operation of machine drills at the Colorado, Beck Tunnel, Crown Point, Iron Blossom, Black Jack and perhaps two or three other properties which are controlled by Jesse Knight. A pipe line to convey air to these different mines is now being put in and no time will be lost in rushing the work to completion. Power for operating these big compressors will come from the new electric line which is now being built into Tintic.

E. H. Butler was in town on Monday and Tuesday. He states that George Svedelink, who has the contract for 100 feet tunneling under the Montrose road, will commence work at once. When asked regarding the Bullock property at Silver City, Mr. Bullock said that the report to the effect that the Aspinwall vein had been cut was erroneous. The drift toward the east from the 150-foot level at a vein of ore which shows good values, but the Aspinwall vein is still further to the east, perhaps ten feet from the face of the drift at the present time. The Bullock is, however, showing up splendidly under the development work which is now under way and on Tuesday the stock jumped 1 1/2 cents. It has been somewhat weaker since that time, but those who have visited the mine of late are confident that it will be a regular shipper in the near future.

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